



I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: April 11, 2007

Signature: Dawn Class

(Dawn Class)

Docket No.: VPI/98-104 CIP CON US  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:

Kuida *et al.*

Confirmation No.: 4567

Application No.: 09/728,173

Art Unit: 1632

Filed: December 1, 2000

For: CASPASE-9 DEFICIENT ANIMALS AND  
THE USE THEREOF

Examiner: D. CROUCH

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Dear Sir:

This amendment is filed in reply to the outstanding non-Final Office Action, mailed on October 11, 2006, in connection with the above application. Applicants respectfully request a three-month extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action. A Petition for Extension of Time and the appropriate fee are being filed concurrently.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 4 of this paper.